



GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING  
FEBRUARY 29, 2016

**Testimony in Opposition to SB 252 AAC Post-Election Audit Integrity and Efficiency.**

Senator Cassano, Representative Jutila and Members of the GAE Committee, my name is Timothy De Carlo, and I am a Registrar of Voters from the City of Waterbury, the Chair of the New Haven County ROVAC Association, as well as the Vice Chairman of the ROVAC Legislative Committee. I am here today to testify in opposition to SB 252.

Last year the General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, SB 1051. A section of this law changed the way in which post-election audits are conducted in Connecticut. The law now allows the Secretary of the State, in consultation and coordination with the University of Connecticut, to authorize the use of electronic equipment to conduct post-election audits held on or after January 1, 2016.

Due to the fact that Connecticut has yet to conduct a Statewide Election in 2016, there has yet to be an audit conducted with the use of electronic equipment. Therefore, ROVAC would ask that an audit using the new equipment take place before making changes to current law. SB 252 would create an overhaul of last year's legislation, which at this point, is premature.

ROVAC would however like to offer a change to the current way in which polling places are selected for an audit. We would like to suggest that Registrars are notified of the selection of a polling place within one week of the Election. Currently, there is no set timeframe for notification, however, the audits for a General Election must be completed by the end of November. Late notification is an unnecessary burden on the Registrars and does not allow proper time for the audit to be conducted, especially in cities that may have multiple polling locations.

In last year's audit for the November General Election, Waterbury was selected six times, New Haven and West Hartford five, and New Fairfield and New Milford twice. It takes time to find qualified workers to conduct these audits, therefore, earlier notice of an audit would be a great advantage for Registrars as well as the public.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify today, and respectfully ask you to oppose SB 252 as it is currently written.

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